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News Release

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SOUTH CAROLINA SPRING VEGETABLE ACREAGE UP 4 PERCENT FROM 2010

In **SOUTH CAROLINA**, the spring acreage of fresh market **cucumbers** is expected to total 1,000 acres, unchanged from 2010, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Spring acreage of fresh market **tomatoes** is estimated at 2,500 acres, up 4 percent from last year.

South Carolina growers have contracted to grow 2,000 acres of cucumbers for pickles, unchanged from 2010.

UNITED STATES SPRING VEGETABLE ACREAGE UP 1 PERCENT

The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the spring quarter is forecast at 193,680 acres, up 1 percent from last year. Acreage increases for cabbage, carrots, sweet corn, and tomatoes more than offset acreage declines for snap beans, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, head lettuce, and bell peppers. Broccoli area remains unchanged. Melon acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 68,000 acres, down 3 percent from last year. Cantaloupe and watermelon acreages are down 1 percent and 5 percent, respectively, from 2010. Honeydew acreage is up 8 percent from last year. Asparagus area for spring harvest is forecast at 28,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Strawberry area for harvest is forecast at 49,800 acres, up 1 percent from a year ago.

UNITED STATES PROCESSED VEGETABLE ACREAGE DOWN 9 PERCENT

Processors expect to contract 1.01 million acres of the five major processed vegetable crops in the United States for 2011, down 9 percent from last year. Contracted acreage declines are forecast for all five major processed vegetable crops. Freezing firms expect to contract 301,720 acres, down 16 percent from last year. Canners contracted for 705,350 acres, down 7 percent from 2010. Acreage for snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers for pickles, and green peas is down 17 percent, 10 percent, 1 percent, and 18 percent, respectively, from last year. Tomatoes for processing is down slightly from a year ago.